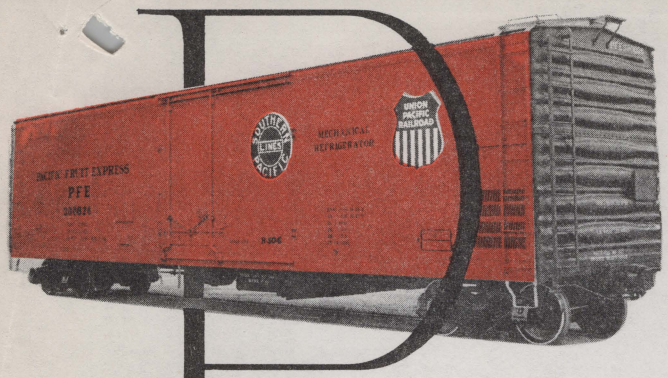

F. E. D.

NEWS LETTER

PACIFIC FRUIT EXPRESS COMPANY

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

MAY 1959

P.F.E. LOADINGS

	1959			1958		
	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total
April	*25,661*	*1,134*	*26,795*	*23,323*	*905*	*24,228*
Jan.-April	*104,431*	*7,114*	*111,545*	*109,217*	*9,042*	*118,259*

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CAR SITUATION

While car supplies on contract lines as of May 1st were adequate, the westbound tide of PFE cars through our outer gateways was running lighter than normal with little indication of improvement in the near future which would provide for the building of the desired backlog supply in advance of the fast approaching heavy loading season. In view of the reduced supply of active PFE cars and with estimated loadings for May, June, and July in excess of last year's loading for the same period, it was evident that foreign cars would have to be taken in quantity in order to build an adequate backlog supply. The acquisition of fan equipped foreign cars was started on May 1st.

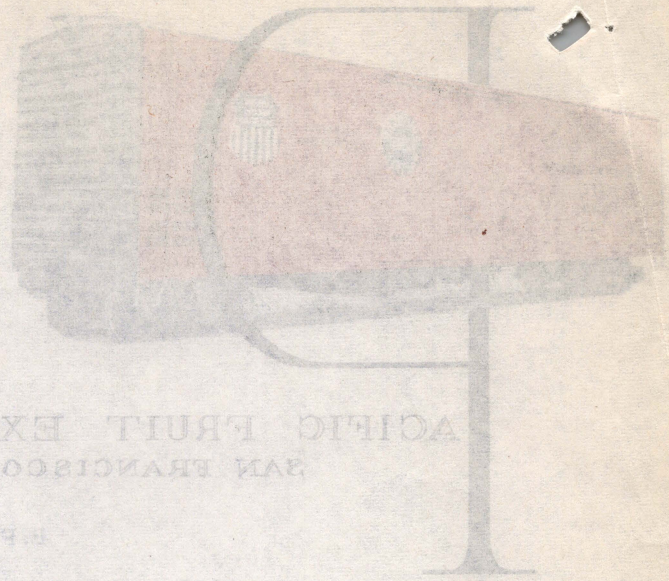
The car supply in California and Arizona improved gradually and by the middle of May supplies were comfortable in all principal loading areas.

CROP CONDITIONS

ALONG UNION PACIFIC -

In Idaho the market for potatoes improved perceptibly during the last half of April and shipments moved at a high daily level throughout the month, and loadings exceeded that of last year by around 1,000 cars. Daily loading decreased steadily after the 1st of May and by the middle of the month daily shipments were less than 100 cars. The evidence that there will be a complete disposal of the Idaho potato crop in May is another example of the respect shown by the trade for the much advertised Idaho tubers. A brief period of cold weather occurred in southwestern Idaho late in April which resulted in some frost damage to the tree fruits. However, the damage was spotty and the consensus is that the crop will be about 75% of normal. This cold spell was in addition to the frost period mentioned in the April NEWS LETTER when low temperatures during the period April 8th to 11th also caused damage to the apricot and peach crops. The planting of potatoes for the 1959 Summer and Fall harvest is proceeding normally. There is a tendency to curtail red potato production this year in favor of long whites and the relatively new early Netted Gem which varieties have been moved most successfully. In view of the high prices received for onions toward the end of the shipping season, there is every indication of an increased acreage being planted this year.

In the Northwest District storage holding of apples is somewhat greater than at this time last year and with normal



NEWS LETTER

PACIFIC FRUIT EXPRESS COMPANY

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

loading the remaining storage will be disposed of in good time. Other miscellaneous shipping consisting of canned goods, frozen foods, beer, and miscellaneous items will continue in normal seasonal volume.

Eastern District loadings will be about normal for this time of year and will consist of packing house products, canned goods, and the usual miscellaneous commodities. In the Kearney District potatoes have all been planted and a slight decrease from last year's acreage is indicated.

ALONG SOUTHERN PACIFIC -

In Oregon practically all of the perishable loading consists of storage items such as frozen foods, pears in the Rogue River Valley, and potatoes in storage cellars in the Klamath Basin. The seasonal shipments of potatoes from the Klamath Basin through April 30th amounted to 2,409 cars compared with 2,183 during same period last year, an increase of 226 cars. Of this number 1,491 shipments moved under the 40,000 lb. minimum per car and 918 moved under 50,000 lb. minimum, which, if converted to the old weight of 36,000 lbs. per shipment, would have amounted to 2,931 cars. This indicates that 422 refrigerator cars were made available for handling other perishable products. Market conditions for the Klamath potatoes improved early in the month and it is evident that all of the remaining potatoes in storage will be disposed of during the month. In the Medford area only 93 carloads of pears remained in storages on May 1st -- most of which consist of Anjous, with a few winter Nelis and P. Barrys. About half of the remaining Anjous were already sold during the first week in May and there is little doubt but that the remaining fruit will be disposed of in the course of the month.

In Northern California the Kern County potato deal continues to progress satisfactorily with shipments moving from all sections of the Bakersfield District. In Salinas Valley lettuce is in full production, and while daily loading is well above that of last year, it is not up to its potential due to poor markets occasioned by heavy Arizona loading. The first freight shipment of Tartarian cherries from the Stockton District moved on May 12th and Bing variety is expected to start about May 20th. Other tree fruit crops are progressing satisfactorily. In the Fresno area, the set of peaches is said to be extremely heavy and above average. Plum and nectarine crops also appear to be much heavier than last year. However, in the case of nectarines there are indications of some thrip damage so that actual tonnage to move will be only slightly above that of last season. Early cantaloupe acreage along the lower "West Side" in the Mendota and Los Banos areas is progressing satisfactorily. Planted acreage is slightly greater than last season.

In the Southwestern District, Imperial Valley carrot harvest is in period of full production and shipping will maintain at a steady level through the month. Cantaloupe fields in the Imperial Valley are in excellent shape and according to local opinion appears to be the best crop the Valley has produced in a number of years. First shipments moved on May 12th. Volume shipments will be reached during the last week in May, and peak is expected early in June. In Yuma Valley, cantaloupe fields have progressed rapidly under favorable weather conditions and the first shipment moved during week of May 17th. In the Salt River Valley, principal crops to move during the month of May are potatoes which are now under way and which will increase gradually, and the Spring onion deal which began during week of May 10th. Both crops will increase steadily and reach peak production in June. Perishable shipments off the West Coast of Mexico are now in seasonal decline. The last of the tomatoes crossed at Nogales during week of May 10th, leaving only cantaloupes and watermelons as the current harvest. Shipping of these commodities will decline gradually and come to a halt when loadings from Imperial and Yuma Valleys get into volume. The first shipments of lettuce from the Willcox, Arizona, area moved on May 14th. The Willcox acreage is much lighter this year than last, growers having concentrated their plantings

on proven ground. In territory west of Banning, citrus harvest is progressing satisfactorily. The volume is increasing gradually and full production is expected early in June. Other loading will consist principally of summer vegetables in the Oxnard and Guadalupe areas.

ALONG THE T&NO -

Vegetable harvests in Rio Grande Valley and Uvalde-Eagle Pass area are progressing satisfactorily. The spring crop of tomatoes in the Rio Grande Valley is looking very good, and with continued favorable weather, a good shipping season may be expected for this crop. Imports of frozen strawberries and cantaloupes from interior of Mexico are past Spring peak but should continue in fairly steady volume through the month and into early June.

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RETIREMENT, PROMOTIONS, AND CHANGES

W. E. "Wally" Becker, who has been Superintendent at Los Angeles since February 1, 1949, retired from active service April 30th after 42 years with the Company. Wally's sincereness and conscientiousness endeared him to his associates and as testimony of their regard a dinner was held in his honor at the Mayfair Hotel in Los Angeles on April 30th. Another dinner had previously been given for him at Santa Maria during the annual outing of shippers and railroad representatives. Wally started with PFE at Colton, California, and as he progressed through the ranks he was stationed at Milford, Utah, El Paso, Tucson, Phoenix, and Salinas before going to Los Angeles as Superintendent. He retires with the sincere best wishes of his many friends.

M. W. "Max" Read succeeded Wally to position of Superintendent at Los Angeles. Max started with the Company at Los Angeles in 1921. His experience has been varied. He worked as Agent at Drumm Street, San Francisco, Diversion Clerk and Car Distributor also at San Francisco in the Twenties. He was Car Distributor at Los Angeles during the difficult days of World War II and subsequently District Agent at Phoenix, Traveling Agent at San Francisco, and then Assistant Superintendent at Los Angeles, which position he held until his appointment as Superintendent.

R. W. "Bob" Torassa, formerly District Agent at Fresno, succeeded to position of Assistant Superintendent at Los Angeles. R. W. "Bob" Terrill succeeded Mr. Torassa to position of District Agent at Fresno. Mr. Terrill had been Chief Clerk at Bakersfield where his father, the late C. W. "Chet" Terrill, had been District Agent for many years.

R. E. Gilkison, who was Plant Manager at Sparks, was transferred to position of Plant Manager at Colton, effective May 1st, succeeding the late Mr. L. G. Schroeder, whose passing was reported in the last issue of the NEWS LETTER.

Because of the inactive status of Sparks, position of Plant Manager there has been abolished. The facility will be supervised by Mr. M. T. Clark, Assistant Plant Manager, who was transferred from Modesto and who at one time was Plant Manager at Carlin before its abandonment.

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In connection with the recent fire at Yuma, following is quoted from Minutes of Safety Meeting held there on April 15th.

> "Mr. Jones thanked the men for their action during the recent fire at the Southwestern Ice Company. Many of the off-duty employees showed up and took charge of many details in connection with the protection of PFE property without having to be asked or told what to do. While this is not directly connected with safety, it does show that the men realize that their own welfare is closely tied in with the welfare of the Company itself."

The management also desires to express thanks to those men who gave so generously of their time and efforts in order to bring the fire under control.

During the year 1958, the following taxes were paid by PFE Company:

STATE, COUNTY, AND CITY TAXES

Arizona	$ 203,006.74
California	1,223,082.27
Colorado	18,081.02
Idaho	200,639.01
Illinois	95,098.54
Indiana	38,513.79
Iowa	89,790.12
Kansas	96,039.98
Michigan	16,234.15
Minnesota	19,367.89
Missouri	24,441.06
Nebraska	167,362.05
Nevada	65,657.94
New Mexico	71,131.83
Ohio	28,124.97
Oklahoma	22,224.25
Oregon	60,522.00
Tennessee	11,887.68
Texas	12,212.71
Utah	106,416.71
Wyoming	88,989.05
Other States and Canada - less than $10,000 each	62,105.49
Total State, County, and City	$2,720,929.25
Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Taxes	1,786,702.38
Miscellaneous	61,614.64
Grand Total	$4,569,246.27

In addition to the above, a substantial amount was paid for Federal Income Taxes.

The Management extends congratulations and best wishes to the following PFE employes who reached service anniversaries with our Company during the month of May 1959:

15 YEARS SERVICE

Miss Ethel P. Epperley	Administrative	San Francisco
B. R. Lee	Agency	Eugene, Ore.
L. E. Lee	Agency	Eugene, Ore.
Mrs. Jessie L. Lindquist	Agency	Yuma, Ariz.
Porfirio Gonzales	Agency	Yuma, Ariz.
Mrs. Patricia A. Huffman	Agency	Roseville
Mrs. Beatrice L. Falltrick	Agency	Roseville
A. A. Wall	Stores Dept	Tucson
A. A. Calistro	Stores Dept	Tucson
Fred J. Bowman	Car Dept	Nampa
Fred E. Adams	Car Dept	Nampa
Melvin F. Dungan	Ice Plant	Council Bluffs
Raymond L. Vieyra	Ice Plant	North Platte

25 YEARS SERVICE

Carlos M. Lucas	Car Dept	Tucson
Ysidro B. Vidal	Car Dept	Tucson
Victor A. Stubblefield	Ice Plant	Bakersfield

30 YEARS SERVICE

James F. Power	Administrative	San Francisco
G. B. Sterner	AGM's Office	Chicago
W. A. Krasowski	AGM's Office	Chicago
Leonard M. Allen	District Agency	Phoenix
R. A. Hartman	Agency	Hearne, Texas
R. F. Marshall	Gen'l. Supt's. Office	Houston
James I. Bitner	Car Dept	Roseville
Ramon A. Rodriguez	Car Dept	Tucson
George H. Smith	Car Dept	Tucson
Cornelio Arias	Ice Plant	Bakersfield

35 YEARS SERVICE

Albert O. Lyttaker	Administrative	San Francisco
Ervyn J. McCutchen	Administrative	San Francisco
A. M. Bessey	AGM's Office	Chicago
H. V. Carlson	Supt's. Office	Ogden
Kuzma M. Kurilenko	Car Dept	Los Angeles
Robert H. Kelsoe	Ice Plant	Roseville

40 YEARS SERVICE

Harold R. Arter	Accounting Dept	San Francisco

The following PFE people have recently retired from our service:

Fritz A. Applerose	Carman	Colton
Bertram S. Brown	Foreman	Colton
Jose J. Diaz	Iceman	Tucson
Mrs. Olive M. Gregory	Steno-Clerk	Colton
Mrs. Leter A. Hamilton	Laborer	Los Angeles
Ervin B. Huddleston	Carman	Colton
Elwyn Prewett	Carman	Roseville
George P. Straub	Carman-Helper	Roseville
Frank T. Terrell	Carman	Colton
George T. Wagner	Carman	Colton
Charles E. Wimberley	Carman	Roseville

To each of them, we extend our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

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CHAS. AHERN
Vice President & General Manager